

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 150853
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 NEA-10 /098 R

DRAFTED BY EA/RA:RSTHOMPSON:JG
APPROVED BY EA/RA:RJMARTENS
EA/P:JFCANNON

-----119402 290458Z /23

R 282355Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 150853

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, SEATO, SOPN

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON SEATO PHASE-OUT

REF: STATE 149824

1. THE FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE HAS BEEN
PREPARED FOR THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S USE IF QUESTIONED
ABOUT THE JUNE 30 DEMISE OF SEATO. POSTS MAY USE THIS
GUIDANCE AT THEIR DISCRETION IF QUERIED.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 150853

Q. ISN'T THE DEMISE OF SEATO EVIDENCE OF THE BANKRUPTCY
OF PRIOR AMERICAN POLICY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA?

A. SEATO SERVED A USEFUL FUNCTION IN ITS TIME BUT THE
SEATO MEMBERS FELT IT WAS NO LONGER NEEDED IN LIGHT OF
CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES.

Q. WILL THERE BE ANY OTHER DEVICE TO TAKE SEATO'S PLACE
SUCH AS ASEAN?

A. NO. WE CONTINUE TO BE INTERESTED IN THE PEACE,

STABILITY AND WELL BEING OF OUR FRIENDS IN THE REGION
BUT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS NO LONGER ONE OF SUCH DIRECT
INVOLVEMENT. THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION ARE THEMSELVES
FORMING NEW REGIONAL TIES WITH EACH OTHER ON AN INDIGEN-
OUS BASIS SUCH AS ASEAN. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE LATTER
HAS NO INTENTION OF BECOMING A MILITARY ALLIANCE IN ANY
CASE.

Q. WHAT IS THE US ATTITUDE TOWARD THE MANILA PACT?

A. THE MANILA PACT CONTINUES TO EXIST. THE LIKELIHOOD
OF ITS BEING INVOKED IS NOT GREAT AND WOULD OCCUR ONLY
IF THERE WERE TO BE A RADICAL CHANGE IN THE POLICIES
OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION THAT WE DO NOT EXPECT.

Q. WHAT COMMITMENT DO WE HAVE UNDER THE MANILA PACT?

A. IF THERE IS AN OVERT ARMED ATTACK BY AN AGGRESSOR,
THE MANILA PACT PROVIDES THAT EACH PARTY "ACT TO MEET
THE COMMON DANGER IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS CONSTITUTIONAL
PROCESSES." WE THINK SUCH AN ATTACK HIGHLY UNLIKELY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 150853

IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. IF AN ATTACK DID OCCUR, WE
WOULD CONSULT CLOSELY WITH THE CONGRESS AND OUR RESPONSE
WOULD DEPEND ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES - THE SCALE OF THE
ATTACK, THE APPARENT INTENTIONS OF THE ATTACKER, THE
ABILITY OF THE DEFENDER TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION,
ETC. END TEXT. VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, PRESS RELEASES, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE150853
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RSTHOMPSON:JG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770231-0849
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770610/aaaaaigw.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 18fd7f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 149824
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1991744
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE ON SEATO PHASE-OUT
TAGS: MARR, SOPN, US, XC, SEATO, MANILA PACT
To: BANGKOK CANBERRA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/18fd7f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009